



**State of New Hampshire  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

6 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095  
(603) 271-3503 FAX (603) 271-5171



November 12, 2003

**LETTER OF DEFICIENCY #WSEB 03-285**  
**CERTIFIED MAIL 7099 3400 0002 9772 3033**

Gary Kitson  
Epsom Village District  
PO Box 5  
Epsom, NH 03234

**Subject: Epsom - Public Water System: Epsom Village District (EPA #0771010)**

Dear Mr. Kitson:

The records of the Department of Environmental Services (DES) show that the Epsom Village District water system is classified as a public water system (PWS), as defined by RSA 485:1-a. A PWS is defined as any water system supplying 15 or more services, or 25 or more people, for 60 or more days per year. Pursuant to NH Admin. Rule Env-Ws 306, PWSs are subject to periodic inspections or sanitary surveys by DES staff. The purpose of the sanitary survey is to review the water system's source, storage, distribution, and management to determine the system's capacity to continuously supply safe drinking water.

On September 18, 2000, personnel from DES conducted a sanitary survey of the Epsom Village District water system. The October 9, 2000, sanitary survey report documented seven deficiencies in one or both pumphouses. On September 11, 2003, another sanitary survey was conducted at the water system. The sanitary survey report, dated September 16, 2003, noted that the two pumphouses remained largely unchanged and that five of the seven pumphouse deficiencies identified in the previous sanitary survey had not been addressed. The five deficiencies are:

- The pumphouses are extremely crowded as they are used for storage of the 30-gallon sodium hydroxide barrels. This makes operations difficult and hazardous.
- Electrical wiring is far below code requirements and also presents a hazard to the operator.  
The chemical feed by metering pump is poorly structured and lacks controls and proper containment.
- The floor at Well 2 is wet and there is no drainage. This station also floods periodically due to high water in the Suncook River.  
The controls and alarm systems in the pump stations are extremely outdated.

RSA 485:4 empowers DES to investigate the sanitary conditions and methods pertaining to the source, treatment, and distribution of public water supplies and to require improvements in conditions and methods to insure fitness, safety, and protection of the public health.

Furthermore, Env-Ws 360.10, *Responsibility to Promptly Repair and Maintain a Public Water*

*System*, requires that a public water system take all appropriate actions to promptly repair and maintain the operational readiness of the system. This requirement includes the implementation of a preventative maintenance program and the repair of any impaired facility. DES is aware that the Precinct has completed some design work for new pumphouses, but to date no designs have been submitted to DES. Pursuant to RSA 485:8, no new construction, addition, or alteration of a public water system shall be commenced until plans and specifications have been submitted to and approved by DES.

DES believes the deficiencies can be corrected and future deficiencies prevented by taking the following actions:

1. **By April 1, 2004**, appropriate the funds necessary to:
  - A. Make the required improvements to the two existing pumphouses to correct the deficiencies listed above; or
  - B. Design and construct two DES-approved replacement pumphouses.
2. **By April 1, 2005**, complete the required improvements to the existing pumphouses, or complete the construction of the DES-approved replacement pumphouses.

In the event compliance is not achieved within this period, DES may take further enforcement action, including issuing an order requiring the deficiencies be corrected, initiating an administrative fine proceeding and/or referring the matter to the NH Department of Justice for imposition of appropriate penalties.

Please send any correspondence, plans, reports, and other correspondence made in connection with this letter to DES as follows:

Robert Mann, P.E.  
Department of Environmental Services  
Water Supply Engineering Bureau  
29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95  
Concord, NH 03302-0095  
Fax: (603) 271-5171  
Phone (603) 271-2953

**Letter of Deficiency #WSEB 03-285**

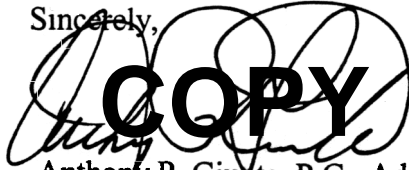
Epsom Village District

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Please contact Alan Leach by phone at (603) 271-2854 or by e-mail at [aleach@des.state.nh.us](mailto:aleach@des.state.nh.us) if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony P. Giunta', is written over a large, bold, black 'COPY' stamp. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Anthony P. Giunta, P.G., Administrator  
Water Supply Engineering Bureau

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cc: Gretchen Rule, DES Legal Unit  
Joseph Damour, Primary Operator  
Cecil Curran, Epsom Health Officer  
EPA, Region 1